



## **Terms of Reference - Short term assignment**

### **Consultancy services for conducting policy analysis of the legal framework - strengths and weaknesses of the current legislation on cyber violence and cybercrime**

#### **Introduction:**

The Albanian Women Empowerment Network (AWEN) was established on July 1st, 2009 (and legally registered on December 27th, 2011) as an initiative of eight non-profit organizations focusing on women protection. Our network aims at strengthening the cooperation among organizations in order to enhance the impact of joint activities at national level and to empower the feminist movement in Albania.

#### **Purpose:**

The purpose of this consultancy is to conduct a comprehensive policy analysis of the legal framework concerning cyber violence and cybercrime in Albania. The analysis aims to identify the strengths and weaknesses of the current legislation, proposing recommendations for improvement that align with social needs and evolving developments.

This initiative is part of AWEN's strategic planning, supported by the Swedish government under the program "Empowering Women, Defending Rights: Path to Gender Equality in Albania."

#### **Background:**

The need for conducting a comprehensive policy analysis to evaluate strengths and weaknesses of the legal framework of the current legislation regarding cyber violence and cybercrime arises from the understanding that in order for the legislation to be in line with social needs and developments is essential to ensure that legislation is up-to-date to effectively combat these issues. The landscape of cyber violence and cybercrime is evolving rapidly, and it is imperative to gauge the impact of interventions on shaping public attitudes. AWEN, its member organizations and other partner organizations recognize the pivotal role they play in advancing the discourse on cyber violence and cybercrime.

#### **Objectives:**

The primary objective of this Terms of Reference is to engage an expert to conduct a comprehensive policy analysis of the current legal framework surrounding cyber-violence and cybercrime in Albania. The analysis aims to assess the strengths and weaknesses of existing legislation, offering well-informed recommendations for enhancement that align with contemporary social needs and developments.

The overarching goal is to contribute to the creation of a more robust and responsive legal structure, ensuring that legislation is not only up-to-date but also effectively addresses the dynamic challenges posed by cyber-violence and cybercrime.

**Scope of Work:**

The selected expert will be responsible for:

- a. Reviewing existing legislation and policies related to cyber violence and cybercrime in Albania.
- b. Identifying strengths and weaknesses in the current national legal framework.
- c. Conducting a comparative analysis with international best practices and standards in the field.
- d. Assessing the alignment of the current legislation with societal needs and developments.
- e. Proposing concrete recommendations for the improvement of the legal framework.

**Deliverables:**

The expert will be expected to deliver the following:

- Inception Report outlining the approach, methodologies, and work plan within the first two weeks of the assignment
- Draft Policy Analysis Report detailing strengths, weaknesses, and recommendations, including a comparative analysis of the national legislation with international best practice and standards
- Final Policy Analysis Report incorporating feedback and comments from AWEN.

**Timeline:**

The work is expected to be conducted over a period of 25 working days, commencing in the end of February 2024 and concluding in May 2024.

**Qualifications and Experience:**

The expert should possess the following qualifications and experience:

- Proven expertise in legal analysis, particularly in the areas of cyber violence and cybercrime
- Knowledge of international best practices and standards in combating cyber violence and cybercrime
- Proven experience in policy analysis, preferably in the context of gender equality and women's rights
- Strong analytical and research skills.

**Reporting and Coordination:**

The expert will report to the designated focal point within AWEN, who will oversee coordination and provide guidance throughout the assignment. Regular meetings and progress updates will be scheduled to ensure effective communication and collaboration.



**Budget:**

The budget for this consultancy will be 150 EUR (gross) per working day.

Note: The specific details and timeline for the methodology development should align with the overall project timeline and organizational requirements, as determined through ongoing coordination with AWEN and other stakeholders.

**Deadline:** Within February 16, 2024, every interested expert is required to submit:

Application with cover letter responding to the ToRs and demonstrating: a solid understanding and ability to deliver the requirements of the assignment, their suitability for the assignment (e.g. expertise in legal analysis including at least three examples of past relevant experience and CVs highlighting previous relevant work), a detailed work plan outlining specific milestones and deliverable dates and an outline of the methodology they would use to execute the assignment.

Please send us your application to this e-mail address: [info@awenetwork.org](mailto:info@awenetwork.org)

*All applications shall be submitted in English. Only shortlisted applicants will be contacted for a face-to-face interview.*